

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – 15TH OCTOBER 2020

MAYOR'S REPORT

As Mayor of our town I would like to inform residents of the improvements the Council are making to try to improve the quality of the environment we all live in and how those efforts are being disabused by the few who seem intent on turning the town into a rubbish tip.

Councillors, as well as concerned residents, have noticed the accumulating amounts of litter and dog mess that is to be seen on our streets. The Council have tried to deal with this in a constructive way by purchasing 8 additional litter bins and 2 additional dog waste bins which have been located in residential areas of the town. These are emptied 3 times weekly in the summer and 2 times weekly in the winter. The cost to the council **and you** is approximately £3212 per annum.

We have also had notices attached to the litter bins requesting that bins are not filled with bags of household rubbish, that the less considerate residents of the town, seem to be doing regularly. I am sure that none of us likes to see litter spilling from bins all over our pavements, but until we can get the message across to those guilty of this practise to stop, it is you and I that will continue to pick up the bill to get it cleaned up. We have had to contact Island Roads on a number of occasions this summer about the frequency of emptying the bins and I have had to send (via the Clerk) various photographs of the bins full with cascading rubbish round them.

Names of some residents who regularly place a full carrier bag full of household waste into the bins have been passed to me. The culprits know who they are, and I am asking you please to have more respect for the town and its residents and to stop this inconsiderate behaviour. **Every HOUSEHOLD in the town receives a free bin from AMEY for their household waste, please use it and stop filling litter bins!**

Should you not have a bin please contact AMEY, or if you need an additional speak to AMEY. In case of hardship - they can help.

Some inconsiderate people are also guilty of littering our streets; thoughtlessly dropping rubbish anywhere or leaving it wherever they feel like it, instead of taking it home with them or disposing of it in the proper place. Not for one moment do I think those who have the privilege to live in our town would be so thoughtless and, I believe, it is the minority of inconsiderate visitors who are disgracing our town in this way. It has been noticeable that the numbers arriving in our town via Red Funnel and those on yachts is increasing and with them the amount of litter accumulating on the streets!

And finally, a plea to dog owners – be a responsible owner and pick up your dog's mess they cannot do it themselves.

Please help to make our town a place to be proud of, thank you.

Councillor Jane Rann, Mayor of East Cowes